

Cheryl Wheeler

"Since You've Been Gone"

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A woman my age, sittin' here cryin'
I oughta be stronger than I am
Oughta take comfort in wisdom or something like that
But it isn't that way, 'cause sooner or later
I'm still that nervous ninth grader
Watching you pull us together, I never knew how

And since you've been gone I'm just fallin' apart
There's a hole in my life, in my soul, in my heart
And I stare out this window till light becomes dark
And there's nothing that's touching me now

But not to complain, we're just bereft, not deserted
Lord knows you're rest was deserved
It's just your absence is present in all that I do
In the sun in the field, in the poem I keep saying
In the hymn that some church bells were playing
You have always been part of them but I never knew

How could I ever begin to say?
Surely you already knew
What is this world with you gone away?
How can this finally be true?

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